IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA AT BECKLEY

MATTHEW GIBSON,

Plaintiff,

 \mathbf{V}_{\bullet}

CIVIL ACTION NO.: 5:21-cv-00181 HONORABLE FRANK W. VOLK

LOUISE E. GOLDSTON, individually, COUNTY COMISSION OF RALEIGH COUNTY, a political subdivision, JEFF MCPEAKE, individually, BRIAN WHITE, individually, BOBBY STUMP, individually, KYLE LUSK, individually,

Defendants.

<u>DEFENDANTS COUNTY COMMISSION OF RALEIGH COUNTY, JEFF MCPEAKE,</u> <u>BRIAN WHITE, AND BOBBY STUMP'S</u> MOTION TO DISMISS THE PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT

NOW COME the Defendants, County Commission of Raleigh County, Jeff McPeake, Brian White, and Bobby Stump, by and through counsel, J. Victor Flanagan, Kevin J. Robinson and the law firm of Pullin, Fowler, Flanagan, Brown & Poe, PLLC, and respectfully move this Court to dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. In support of their Motion, Defendants state as follows:

- I. Defendants Jeff McPeake, Brian White, and Bobby Stump are entitled to qualified immunity on all counts in the Plaintiff's Complaint.
- II. Plaintiff's Complaint for Violation of the First Amendment against Defendants McPeake, Stump, and White does not meet the pleading standards of *Twombly* and *Iqbal*.
- III. Defendant Raleigh County Commission has qualified immunity for any 42

- U.S.C. §1983 claims against it as the Plaintiff has failed to meet the pleading standards of *Twombly* and *Iqbal*.
- IV. Plaintiff's Complaint does not meet the pleading standard of Rule 8 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure as delineated in *Twombly* and *Iqbal* and fails to assert any factual content that would result in reasonable inference that the Defendants are liable for a violation of the 14th Amendment as alleged in Counts IV and V of the Complaint.

Please see Plaintiff's Complaint attached hereto as Exhibit A.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, based upon the foregoing, these Defendants request that this Honorable Court grant their Motion to Dismiss with prejudice and grant Defendants any other and further relief which the Court deems appropriate.

COUNTY COMMISSION OF RALEIGH COUNTY, JEFF McPEAKE, BRIAN WHITE, AND BOBBY STUMP, By Counsel,

/s/ Kevin J. Robinson

J. Victor Flanagan, WV State Bar No. 5254
vflanagan@pffwv.com
Kevin J. Robinson, WV State Bar No. 10181
krobinson@pffwv.com

PULLIN, FOWLER, FLANAGAN, BROWN & POE, PLLC

252 George Street

Beckley, WV 25801

Telephone:

(304) 254-9300

Facsimile:

(304) 255-5519

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA AT BECKLEY

MATTHEW GIBSON,

Plaintiff,

v.

CIVIL ACTION NO.: 5:21-cv-00181 HONORABLE FRANK W. VOLK

LOUISE E. GOLDSTON, individually, COUNTY COMISSION OF RALEIGH COUNTY, a political subdivision, JEFF MCPEAKE, individually, BRIAN WHITE, individually, BOBBY STUMP, individually, KYLE LUSK, individually,

Defendants.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned, counsel of record for Defendants, does hereby certify on this 19th day of April, 2021, that a true copy of the foregoing "DEFENDANTS COUNTY COMMISSION OF RALEIGH COUNTY, JEFF MCPEAKE, BRIAN WHITE, AND BOBBY STUMP'S MOTION TO DISMISS THE PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT" was served upon opposing counsel through the Court's CM/ECF filing system as follows:

John H. Bryan, Esquire
Law Office of John H. Bryan
611 Main St.
P.O. Box 366
Union, WV 24983
jhb@johnbryanlaw.com
Counsel for Plaintiff

Jennifer E. Tully, Esquire
Adam K. Strider, Esquire
Bailey & Wyant, PLLC
500 Virginia Street, East, Suite 600
P. O. Box 3710
Charleston, WV 25337-3710
jtully@baileywvant.com
astrider@baileywvant.com
Counsel for Defendant Louise E. Goldston

Arie M. Spitz, Esquire
Kevin A. nelson, Esquire
Jason L. Holliday
Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP
P. O. Box 11887
Charleston, WV 25339-1887
arie.spitz@dinsmore.com
kevin.nelson@dinsmore.com
jason.holliday@dinsmore.com

/s/ Kevin J. Robinson

J. Victor Flanagan, WV State Bar No. 5254
<u>vflanagan@pffwv.com</u>
Kevin J. Robinson, WV State Bar No. 10181
<u>krobinson@pffwv.com</u>

PULLIN, FOWLER, FLANAGAN, BROWN & POE, PLLC

252 George Street Beckley, WV 25801

Telephone: (304) 254-9300 Facsimile: (304) 255-5519